

members to act with a similar Committee of the House of Representatives for the purpose of drafting Rules for the government of both Houses of the General Assembly.

Said motion was sustained, and Messrs Long, Bird and Eppes appointed said Committee.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock A. M.

THURSDAY, November 30, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment. A quorum being present, the proceedings of yesterday were read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Smith moved that a committee of three be appointed by the President to select a Chaplain for the Senate.

Said motion was adopted, and Messrs. Smith, Long and Bird were appointed said Committee.

Hon. A. W. Nicholson, Senator elect from the 1st Senatorial District, presented his credentials and was duly sworn by Thomas J. Eppes, a Notary Public.

Mr. Hopkins gave notice that he will on to-morrow, introduce a bill to prevent fraudulent voting in the State.

The Committee appointed to draft and report Rules for the government of the Senate during the present session, reported the following, to-wit:

The committee appointed to draft and report Rules for the government of the Senate during its present session, beg leave to report the following, viz:

RULES OF THE SENATE.

RULE 1. The President shall take the Chair every day at the hour to which the Senate shall have adjourned; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read.

RULE 2. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak to points of order, in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Senate by any two members; on which appeal, no member shall speak more than once, unless by leave of the Senate.

RULE 3. He shall rise to put the question, but may state it sitting.

RULE 4. No member shall speak to another, or otherwise interrupt the business of the Senate, while the journals or public papers are being read or pass between the President and any other member who is addressing the Senate.

RULE 5. Every member, when he speaks, shall address the

Chair, standing in his place; and when he has finished, shall sit down.

RULE 6. No member shall speak more than twice in any one debate on the same subject, without leave of the Senate.

RULE 7. When two or more members shall rise at the same time, the President shall name the person entitled to proceed.

RULE 8. When a member shall be called to order, he shall sit down until the President shall determine whether he is in order or not; and every question of order shall be decided by the President without debate, but subject to an appeal to the Senate.

RULE 9. If any member shall be called to order for words spoken, the exceptionable words shall be immediately taken down in writing, that the President may be better enabled to judge of the matter.

RULE 10. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Senate, without leave of the Senate; and in case a less number than a quorum shall convene, they are hereby authorized to send the Sergeant-at-Arms, or any other person or persons by them authorized, for any or all absent members, as the majority of such members shall agree, at the expense of such absent members respectively, unless such excuse for non-attendance shall be made as the Senate, when a quorum is convened, shall judge sufficient.

RULE 11. No motion shall be debated until it be seconded.

RULE 12. When a motion shall be made and seconded, it shall be reduced to writing, if desired by the President, or any member, delivered in at the table and read, before the same shall be debated.

RULE 13. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, but to adjourn, to lie on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or to amend; which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they stand arranged; and the motion to adjourn shall always be in order, unless when a member shall be engaged in addressing the Senate, or when the Senate shall be engaged in taking a vote; and the motions to adjourn and to lie on the table shall be decided without debate.

RULE 14. If the question in debate shall contain several points, any member may have the same divided.

RULE 15. In filling up blanks, the largest sum and the longest time shall be first put.

RULE 16. When the reading of a paper is called for, and the same is objected to by any member, it shall be determined by a vote of the Senate, without debate.

RULE 17. When the yeas and nays shall be called for by two of the members present, every member within the bar of the Senate, at the time the question was put by the President, shall (unless, for special reasons, he be excused by the Senate) declare, openly and

without debate, his assent or dissent to the question. In taking the yeas and nays, and upon the call of the Senate, the names of the members shall be taken alphabetically.

RULE 18. On a motion made and seconded to shut the doors of the Senate, in the discussion of any business which may, in the opinion of any member, require secrecy, the President shall direct the gallery to be cleared; and during the discussion of such motion, the doors shall remain shut; and no motion shall be deemed in order to admit any person or persons whatever.

RULE 19. The following order shall be observed in taking up the business of the Senate, to wit: *First*, Motions; *Second*, Petitions; Memorials and other papers, addressed either to the Senate, or to the President thereof; *Third*, Resolutions; *Fourth*, Reports of Standing Committees; *Fifth*, Reports of Select Committees; *Sixth*, Messages from the House of Representatives; and, *Lastly*, Orders of the Day.

RULE 20. When a question has been once made and decided, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move the re-consideration thereof; but no motion for the re-consideration of any vote shall be in order after a bill, resolution, message, report or amendment, upon which the vote was taken, shall have gone out of the possession of the Senate, announcing its decision; nor shall any motion for re-consideration be in order, unless the same shall be made within the next two days of actual session thereafter.

RULE 21. The President shall have the right to name a member of the Senate to perform the duties of the Chair; but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment.

RULE 22. Before any petition, or memorial, addressed to the Senate, shall be received and read, whether the same be introduced by the President or a member, a brief statement of the contents of the petition or memorial shall verbally be made by the introducer; after which, it may be referred to a committee.

RULE 23. One day's notice, at least, shall be given of an intended motion for leave to bring in a bill.

RULE 24. Every bill, resolution of a public nature, or resolution for the appropriation of the public money, shall receive three readings previously to its being passed, and the President shall give notice at each, whether it be the first, second, or third, which readings shall be on three different days, unless in cases of emergency four-fifths of the Senate may deem it expedient to dispense with the rules.

RULE 25. The first reading of a bill or resolution of a public nature, or for the appropriation of the public money, shall be for the information of the Senate; at which reading, the introducer shall have the right to state the general principles of the bill or resolution, as the case may be, and the causes for introducing it; and if opposition be made to it, the question shall be, "shall the bill or resolution be rejected?" upon which question there shall be no debate. If no

opposition be made, or if the question to reject be negatived, the bill or resolution shall go to a second reading without a question.

RULE 26. No bill or resolution of a public nature, requiring the appropriation of public money, shall be committed or amended, until it shall have been twice read, after which, it may be committed or amended.

RULE 27. When a bill or resolution of a public nature for the appropriation of public money shall have been read the second time, and before both sides of the question shall have been put to the Senate upon its passage, it shall be in order for any member to move its commitment to a committee of the whole house—that it lie on the table—for its indefinite postponement—for its postponement to a day certain—for its commitment to a standing committee—to a select committee—or to amend; which motions shall have precedence in the order above stated. After a bill or resolution shall have been amended, it shall again be read as amended, for the information of the Senate, before the question shall be put upon its passage.

RULE 28. The final question upon the second reading of every bill or resolution, requiring three readings previously to being passed, shall be, "whether it shall be engrossed, and read a third time."

RULE 29. Before a bill or resolution requiring three readings shall be read the third time in the Senate, it shall be carefully engrossed, (without interlineation or erasure,) under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate, and upon this reading of the bill or resolution, it shall not be committed or amended without the consent of three-fourths of the Senate.

RULE 30. It shall not be in order to amend the title of a bill or resolution, until it shall have passed its second reading.

RULE 31. The title of bills, and such parts thereof only as shall be affected by proposed amendments, shall be inserted in the Journals.

RULE 32. The President of the Senate shall appoint the following Standing Committees, which shall thus be denominated:

1. Committee on the Judiciary.
2. Committee on the State of the Commonwealth.
3. Committee on Corporations.
4. Committee on Schools and Colleges.
5. Committee on Propositions and Grievances.
6. Committee on Internal Improvements.
7. Committee on Elections.
8. Committee on Claims and Accounts.
9. Committee on Engrossed Bills.
10. Committee on Enrolled Bills.
11. Committee on Amendments and Revision of the Constitution.
12. Committee on the Executive Department.
13. Committee on the Militia.
14. Committee on Taxation and Revenue.

15. Committee on Federal Relations.

RULE 33. All confidential communications made by the Governor to the Senate, shall be, by the members thereof, kept secret, until the Senate, by their resolution, take off the injunction of secrecy.

RULE 34. All information or remarks touching or concerning the character or qualifications of any person nominated by the Governor to office, shall be kept secret.

RULE 35. When acting on confidential Executive business, the Senate shall be cleared of all persons, except the Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Messenger and Door-Keeper.

RULE 36. The proceedings of the Senate, when not acting in Committee of the Whole, shall be entered on the Journals as concisely as possible, care being taken to detail an accurate and true account of the proceedings.

RULE 37. Messages shall be transmitted to the House of Representatives by the Secretary; upon each of which shall previously be endorsed by the Secretary, the final determination of the Senate thereon.

RULE 38. Messengers may be introduced in any stage of the business, except while a question is being put, or while the yeas and nays are being called.

RULE 39. The Governor of the State, former Governors of the State and Territory, Senators, and Representatives from this State in the Congress of the United States, State House officers, members of the Representative branch of the General Assembly, and Judges of the Chancery and Circuit Courts of this State, shall be admitted to a seat within the bar of the Senate Chamber, and any other person upon the invitation of a member of the Senate.

RULE 40. The Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant-at-Arms, Messenger and Door-Keeper, shall be severally sworn by the President, well and faithfully to discharge their respective duties, and to keep secret the proceedings of the Senate, when sitting with closed doors.

RULE 41. No member who was without the bar of the Senate when the question was put by the Chair, shall be permitted to vote on the question then before the Senate, without the unanimous consent of the Senate.

RULE 42. No rule herein adopted for the government of the Senate, shall be amended or suspended, without the consent of four-fifths of the Senate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. A. LONG,
Chairman.

Which report was concurred in, and 75 copies ordered to be printed.

Mr. Long, from a Joint Select Committee, made the following report:

The Joint Select Committee appointed by the Senate and House

of Representatives to draft and report Rules for the government of the two branches of the General Assembly, beg leave to Report the following Joint Rules of the General Assembly:

JOINT RULES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

RULE 1. Messages from either House to the other shall be sent by such persons as a sense of propriety in each House may determine.

2. After a bill shall have passed both Houses, it shall be duly enrolled by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, or by the Secretary of the Senate, as the bill may have originated in one or the other House.

3. When bills shall be enrolled, they shall be examined by a Joint Committee of at least two from the Senate, and two from the House of Representatives, appointed as a Standing Committee for that purpose, who shall forthwith make a report.

4. When a bill or resolution, which shall have passed in one House is rejected in the other, notice thereof shall be given to the House in which the same may have passed.

5. When a bill or resolution which has been passed in one House shall be rejected in the other, it shall not be brought in during the same session, without notice of ten days, and leave of two-thirds of that House in which it shall be moved.

6. Each House shall transmit to the other all papers on which any bill or resolution shall be founded.

7. No bill that shall have passed one House, shall be sent for concurrence to the other, on either of the last three days of the session.

8. After each House shall have adhered to their disagreement, a bill or resolution shall be lost.

9. When elections are required to be made by joint vote of the two Houses, the time of electing shall be previously agreed upon, and each House shall communicate the nominations made therein to the other, prior to the voting.

10. Each House shall communicate to the other the nominations and the result of each voting.

11. In every Joint Committee, the member first named on the part of the House first proposing such Committee, shall convene the same.

12. During the election of officers there shall be no motions entertained, except to adjourn, to proceed to vote, to nominate and to withdraw a candidate—which motions shall have precedence in the order they stand.

13. The doings throughout shall proceed without debate.

14. Communications shall be made on paper, and signed by the Secretary of each House, and transmitted by the Messenger, or Door-keeper.